GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:776
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006
IMPORT OF EDIBLE OIL
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the import of edible oils in the country during the last three years both in terms of quantity and value;

(b) the impact of these imports on the domestic production; and

(c) the recommendations of commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices on oilseed prices vis-Ã -vis import prices?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): Domestic production estimates of oilseeds/edible oils and import of edible oils during the last three years have been as under:-

Oil Year Nov.-Oct.	Production of oilseeds (Quantity in lakh tonnes)	Net domestic availability of edible oils from all domestic sources (Quantity in lakh tonnes)	Import of Edible Oils# Quantity (Quantity in lakh tonnes)	Value (Value in Rs. Crore)
2002-2003	148.39	46.64	43.65	8779.64
2003-2004	251.86	71.40	52.90	11683.24
2004-2005	243.54	72.47	45.42	10755.65

Financial Year.

(c): The Minimum Support/Procurement Prices of oilseeds recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)for the year 2005-2006 has been as under:-

Commodity	2005-2006@ (Recommended) (Rs. per quintal)
Rapeseed/Mustard	1700
Safflower	1550
Sunflower Seed	1500
Groundnut	1520
Soyabean(Black)	900
Soyabean (Yellow)	1010
Sesamum	1550
Nigerseed	1200
Copra (Milling)	3570
Copra (Ball)	3820

@ Marketing Season.

The other recommendations made by CACP for the year 2005-2006 in this regard include:-

(i) Government should review its import policy on edible oils and increase import duty on crude and refined palm oil/palmolein significantly so as to keep the domestic prices of oilseeds well above the Minimum Support Prices (MSP).

(ii) Government should take utmost care and examine all pros and cons while considering the agricultural commodities in the Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and in bilateral and regional trade liberalization agreements.